

WESTMINSTER TRAFFIC COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, November 24, 2009

CALL TO ORDER A regular meeting of the Westminster Traffic Commission was called to order by Vice Chairman Fisher on Tuesday, November 24, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, 8200 Westminster Boulevard, Westminster, California.

SALUTE TO FLAG Commissioner Nguyen led the members of the audience in the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL Commissioners Present: Fisher, Nguyen and Cruz

Commissioners Absent: Hamade and Robbins

STAFF PRESENT Adolfo Ozaeta, Civil Engineering Associate; Lieutenant Bill Collins, Westminster Police Department and Bill Pham, Engineering Assistant.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES The minutes of the Traffic Commission's regular meeting of October 27, 2009 were approved (3-0), with the correction of the motion to approve staff's recommendation being made by Vice Chairman Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Cruz.

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED The first Item to be considered at this evening's meeting was T.C. 75-127, Request for Parking Restrictions on Chestnut Street at Santee Avenue (west side of Chestnut Street).

**T.C. 75-127
Chestnut Street
at Santee Avenue** Mr. Ozaeta informed the Commission that staff received a written request from Miguel Torres (7172 Sowell Avenue). His concern was the lack of sight visibility to perform left hand turn maneuvers from the north to the south of Santee Avenue onto Chestnut Street.

Mr. Ozaeta explained that staff assesses and addresses the conditions of the resident's concern and sight visibility is problematic throughout the City as vehicles exit from a minor street onto a more significant street.

Mr. Ozaeta used Exhibit A to inform the Commission that parking is not allowed on the east side of Chestnut Street

and heavy duty trucks are parked at random hours of the day on the west side of Chestnut Street. A 5-second corner sight distance triangle analysis was performed to determine the adequate distance needed to make maneuvers.

STAFF'S

RECOMMENDATION

Staff's recommendation was to install parking restrictions on the west side of Chestnut Street for a distance of 103 feet to the north of Santee Avenue and 65 feet to the south of Santee Avenue.

This would provide safe maneuverability for vehicles, however; a number of parking spaces would need to be eliminated. Therefore, Mr. Ozaeta indicated it would be at the discretion of the Commission to approve or reduce the amount of parking restrictions.

Bob Hoff (14621 Davis Street) spoke in favor of parking restrictions and found staff's recommendation to be insufficient due to the amount of traffic on Chestnut Street. Mr. Hoff suggested a "No Parking Zone" sign be posted from Santee Avenue to the drainage area rather than "Stop" signs posted on north and southbound Chestnut Street. He believes this would resolve the traffic congestion and sight visibility. He observed that vehicles do not park at the Edison facility due to the parking restrictions on Bolsa. There are a few parking spaces available for people doing business at Edison which does not interfere with their traffic. The only other alternate exit from the neighborhood is on Sowell Avenue onto the eastside of Goldenwest Street which neither he nor his neighbors brave to exit. It appears that Edison has employed private contractors over the years to deliver major equipment in the early mornings. Their travel entails exiting the 405 freeway, traveling west to east on Sowell Avenue onto Chestnut Street and performing u-turn maneuvers at the dead end street of their neighborhood.

Charles Dauris (14691 Davis Street) submitted a petition to the Commission in favor of parking restrictions. He mentioned that the women in the neighborhood are frightened to pull out of the area. He commented that large trucks travel Sunday and park overnight to meet their Monday delivery. For the past 20 years they have dropped their food, urinated on the fences, placed human feces in bags and either drop them on the ground or over the neighbor's walls. The trucks have designated industrial parking on Hoover Street to Chestnut Street and should

not have to park throughout their neighborhood. He has called the police numerous of times for disrupting their neighborhood by running their engines, blowing their horns and breaking their palates throughout the night. The petition requests red curb from the railroad tracks to Santee Avenue to the drainage canal, and for signs to be placed in the neighborhood reading "Street Sweeping" and "No Littering."

Commissioner Cruz questioned the parking restrictions on the eastside of Chestnut Street across from Santee Avenue.

Mr. Ozaeta explained he would confirm with Edison if the red curb was installed at the time of permit issuance and for possible maintenance at their front entrance.

Commissioner Cruz questioned the street sweeping.

Mr. Dauris stated there were no "Street Sweeping" signs posted in their neighborhood and it has not been enforced.

Mr. Ozaeta communicated he would verify where the "Street Sweeping" signs are located as they are normally posted at the entrance of a neighborhood.

Sergeant Nye explained he would convey the message to Sonya Radzuik, Parking Control Supervisor, to enforce street sweeping at this location.

Mr. Ozaeta conveyed to the Commissioners that it is at their discretion to add additional instructions to staff's recommendation and/or approve the recommendation with further investigation as other concerns have surfaced that were not in the initial grievance.

MOTION

Vice Chairman Fisher moved to approve staff's recommendation in addition to speaking with Edison regarding partial red curb elimination.

Mr. Ozaeta offered additional approaches to resolving the resident's issues. Some examples would be to have Edison's delivery vehicles park adjacent to their facility, eliminate parking on the west side of the street and implement height restrictions for vehicles greater than six feet.

VOTE

The motion carried by a 3-0 vote, with Chairman Hamade and Commissioner Robbins being absent.

T.C. 76-180

Goldenwest Street at Homer Street

The second item for discussion was T.C. 76-180, Request to Install "Keep Clear" Pavement Markings on the west side of Goldenwest Street at Homer Street.

Mr. Ozaeta explained Vivian Kilpatrick-Pilger presented her request to the Mayor and City Council at a Council meeting held on October 28, 2009. Her request was for "Keep Clear" pavement markings to be restored as they were previously 5-10 years ago. Exhibit A and B were displayed to illustrate subject area and show the backup of traffic on Main Street up to Homer Street during peak hours.

Mr. Ozaeta stated that five criteria need to be met in order to place "Keep Clear" pavement markings and they are as follows:

1. Markings must alleviate the problem for left turns only.
2. Location must be on a city arterial designated in the General Plan.
3. 30 vehicles or more making a left turn during peak hours would be significant for markings.
RESULT: 60 vehicles attempted left hand maneuvers at this location.
4. The amount of time vehicles are waiting to make a left hand maneuver.
RESULT: Two minute delay per vehicle.
5. Number of accidents. Collision data must show more than three broadside accidents within a three-year period.
RESULT: 12 accidents, eight being broadside at this location since 2006.

STAFF'S

RECOMMENDATION

Staff's recommendation was to install "Keep Clear" pavement markings and monitor the location closely. Mr. Ozaeta added that he received two phone calls regarding Homer Street in favor of the improvement.

Tuan Nog (Tony, 14221 Goldenwest Avenue #69) spoke in favor of installing pavement markings so residents can exit the intersection.

Commissioner Nguyen added that he is familiar with the area and believes it to be very busy and dangerous during peak hours.

MOTION

Commissioner Nguyen moved to approve "Keep Clear" Pavement Markings at the subject location, seconded by Vice Chairman Fisher.

VOTE

The motion carried by a 3-0 vote, with Chairman Hamade and Commissioner Robbins being absent.

**T.C. 69-252
Sigler Park**

The final item for discussion was T.C. 69-252, Safety Assessment of the Roadway Conditions in the Sigler Park area.

In September of 2009, Mayor Rice informed staff of resident's concerns of accidents they have heard of or observed at the subject location. Vice Chairman Fisher also expressed concern regarding pedestrian safety near the Waterspray Park. Staff observed the area and roadway for improvements. During the safety assessment study staff visited the site to monitor the speed, inventory the signs, examine roadway markings and inspect accident records. The analysis collected is as follows:

1. The 85th percentile speed was 34 mph.
RESULT: 9 mph over the posted 25 mph speed limit.
2. The wide streets in the area allow motorists to feel more comfortable driving and opting to speed.

Staff will consult with the Police Department for a strategy to monitor and enforce the speed. Sergeant Nye stated they will monitor this area with speed guns and speed trailers.

Mr. Ozaeta explained that all signs and roadway markings were inspected and complied with the standards outlined in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Exhibit B and C displayed the refreshed pavement markings, signage and increased parking spaces staff had implemented. Exhibit D displayed the existing sign to be replaced with the new updated sign. Staff researched police reports and found 11 accidents reported since 2005. Pedestrian right of way violations was the primary collision factor. Staff suggested meeting with the community and entities surrounding Sigler Park to educate them regarding vehicle and pedestrian traffic.

This would enhance awareness and help eliminate collisions. An example would be for the priest at the church to include in his closing remarks to be aware of the conditions. Mr. Ozaeta budgeted \$5,000.00 for Safe Routes to Schools to educate parents and children with pamphlets. He further explained that this neighborhood can be budgeted for this type of literature.

STAFF'S

RECOMMENDATION Staff's recommendation was to approve the recommendations as listed in the Traffic Commission Report.

Vice Chairman Fisher proposed that a neighbor could hold meetings at their place of residence and they could also distribute pamphlets as a nonprofit.

Mr. Ozaeta informed that 500 people had attended the Founder's Day Parade at the Korean Church adjacent to Sigler Park and was unaware if they normally generate that much traffic.

MOTION

Commissioner Cruz motioned to approve Staff's recommendation as listed in the Traffic Commission Report, seconded by Vice Chairman Fisher.

VOTE

The motion carried by a 3-0 vote, with Chairman Hamade and Commissioner Robbins being absent.

The Commission questioned if additional parking spaces would improve the conditions.

Mr. Ozaeta reported an increase of 70 parking spaces resulting from the improved striping.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no "New Business" items presented to the Commission at tonight's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no "Old Business" items presented to the Commission at tonight's meeting.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

There were no "Information and Reports" items presented to the Commission at tonight's meeting.

ORAL

COMMUNICATIONS Commissioner Cruz questioned why the signal at Cedar Street and Wyoming Street is still facing the wrong direction.

Mr. Ozaeta explained the signal had been reported to the Corporate Yard and will follow up tomorrow.

**WRITTEN
COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no "Written Communications" items presented to the Commission at tonight's meeting.

**ITEMS
COMMISSIONERS
MAY WISH TO
DISCUSS**

There were no "Items Commissioners may wish to discuss" at tonight's meeting.

Vice Chairman Fisher inquired about the results of the disabled parking space on 16461 Van De Velde Way from the previous Council Meeting.

Mr. Ozaeta stated the Council had approved the recommendation, a unanimous vote, to remove the disabled parking space. The work order has been generated to remove the disabled parking space.

**ITEMS STAFF MAY
WISH TO DISCUSS**

Mr. Ozaeta notified that the Traffic Commission Meeting to be held in December has been cancelled and will resume in January

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marwan Youssef
Public Works Director/City Engineer



By: Dora Salud
Special Services Clerk